

# ♦The Lamoine Quarterly♦

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July 2009

## Goodbye Lamoine School Dept. – Hello Regional School Unit 24

(Undated) - The Lamoine School Department, one of the many departments that combined to make up School Union 92, has now officially ceased to exist. As of July 1, the education of students in twelve municipalities (Lamoine, Ellsworth, Hancock, Eastbrook, Waltham, Mariaville, Sorrento, Franklin, Sullivan, Winter Harbor, Gouldsboro and Steuben) will be provided by RSU 24. It has been a speedy transformation, and a lot of questions about the future remain.

### The Budget

When the Legislature mandated school consolidation, it was marketed that merging school districts would save millions of dollars. The combined school budget in RSU 24 approved at the first ever RSU budget meeting on May 26, 2009 totaled \$32,367,043.80. Voters in all but two of the communities validated that budget on June 9, 2009, and the vote total for the district means the budget will move forward. The total compared to the expenditures approved for the 2008/09 school year for all schools is roughly \$1.3 million dollars less (4% decrease). However, more property taxes will be required to fund the approved budget. Lamoine's property tax share of the budget will be approximately \$2.1 million dollars, a \$57,565 increase from the 08/09 year.

### The Board

There is no more Lamoine School Committee that will be charged with

running the town's elementary school and arranging for secondary education at area high schools. The RSU is run by a 15-member board (3 from Ellsworth, one each from the rest of the towns) which has been meeting nearly every week prior to the launch of the

new school district. Lamoine's representative on the RSU board is Jonathan Morren of Quail Lane. A special town meeting in June was asked to form a local school advisory board which is charged with dealing with issues involving Lamoine students to be communicated to the RSU board through its representative.

### School Choice

By state law, Lamoine high school students can choose where they wish to attend secondary school. The law did not require property tax dollars to pay for any additional tuition costs for schools outside



*The School Union 92 Office in Ellsworth was vacated in late June—workers moved the contents to the new RSU 24 office at the Mill Mall, home of the former Ellsworth School System office.*

of the RSU. There are two high schools within RSU 24, Ellsworth and Sumner, and the difference in cost to educate a child at the RSU high school and one at an out-of-district school can add up to a significant amount of money. In Lamoine's case, nearly half the secondary students attend MDI High School, which is not part of the RSU. A special town meeting in June approved of raising over \$25,000 to fund the final year of a contract to educate student choosing to attend MDI High School and other non RSU 24 schools.

## Fowlers Named Citizens of the Year

(Lamoine) - Contractors Jay and Perry Fowler are the first recipients of the "Citizen of the Year" award instituted by the Board of Selectmen in 2008. The father and son duo have done a lot for the town for many years, but 2008 was way beyond belief. The Fowlers provided all the site work for the Veterans' Memorial at the Town Hall. They also did a significant amount



*Jay Fowler accepts a certificate naming him "Citizen of the Year" for 2008 from Selectman Chair Jo Cooper*

of site work at the playground behind the Lamoine Consolidated School. Jay was one of the main driving forces in construction of the Veterans' Memorial as part of the committee. He's also a member of the Board of Appeals

Perry is a former Selectman and a former Planning Board Member. Whenever they've been asked to do some work for the town, either for hire or

voluntary, they've come through.

It wasn't easy conveying the awards. It was originally planned to do it at town meeting, but Jay was out of town, so arrangements were made to present a certificate at a Selectman's meeting and give Perry a plaque at town meeting. However, Perry was unable to attend town meeting, so wife Heather accepted on his behalf.

## Special Town Meeting July 23

(Lamoine) - There is a lot of uncharted territory surrounding school consolidation, and one of those areas has to do with school choice. As noted above, a special town meeting approved of raising an additional \$25,167.75 to cover tuition costs at non RSU 24 high schools. What wasn't clear prior to posting the town meeting warrant was which budget that should be attributed to. It turns out that additional money is considered part of the municipal (non education, non-county) budget. That means that the town will need to do what's called an "LD-1 Override". LD-1 limits the percentage of property tax increase for the municipal budget in a given year. The town meeting in April included an increase in the LD level to \$111,916.79. The new municipal tax commitment needed to fund the non-education/non-county portion of the budget is 130,834.54, or approximately 1/2 mill.

There will be a special town meeting at the school on Thursday, July 23, 2009 at 6:30 PM to take the required written vote to override the LD-1 level. A selectmen meeting will follow.

## Cell Phone Tower Hearing is July 7th

(Lamoine) - Townspeople are expressing hope in anticipation of approval for a cellular telephone tower to be constructed on the former town landfill property. The Planning Board will hold a public hearing on the site plan review and commercial building permit applications from Verizon Wireless.

If the tower is constructed, it will provide a cell phone signal that should blanket most of the town. Verizon officials advise, though, that the service is not necessarily compatible with all carrier companies. There are many parts of Lamoine where cell service is virtually non-existent.

The process to get a cell tower has been an on-again, off-again affair. The town was contacted several years ago by

another company which looked over the landfill property area. While there was some initial paper work, nothing ever materialized. Verizon approached the town about leasing land more than 2-years ago. A contract was drawn up, town meeting approval given, and then the economy turned sour and the project was put on the shelf. Fast forward to last winter, and the project was revived, a new area laid out, and the contract finally signed.

In addition to a cell phone signal, the town will also benefit financially. The lease will pay the town government \$12-thousand dollars a year to start with inflationary increases every 5-years. Plans for the project are on file at the town office prior to the hearing.

## Another Subdivision Proposed

(Lamoine) - Though the inventory of house lots is relatively high right now, developers are lining up new subdivisions in Lamoine. The latest proposal comes from Rebecca Joy, representing SARJOY, Inc. of Ellsworth. The developer has already constructed several subdivisions in Lamoine, and is looking to turn a plot of land between Partridge Cove Road (Route 204) and Needles Eye Road into an 11-lot residential subdivision.

Ms. Joy made her initial appearance before the Planning Board in June, but won't be back with a completed

application until August at the earliest.

The preliminary plan would construct a new subdivision road entrance off Partridge Cove Road to serve 9 of the lots, with the remaining two lots having driveway entrances from Needles Eye Road.

The project is in the very early stages of Planning Board submission—a pre-application must be found complete before the board will hold a site visit. A final application must be found complete before a public hearing is scheduled prior to final action.

## Town Meeting Approves Ordinance Changes

(Lamoine) - With very little debate, voters at the annual town meeting in April approved changes to three ordinances administered by the Planning Board. The bulk of the changes were to the Building and Land Use Ordinance and were developed over the past year or so by the Planning Board. The changes include adding a private way definition to the ordinance. This will allow one or two residences to be built more than 500-feet from the highway without having to meet the stringent requirements of a subdivision road. A private way will have to provide turnouts every 500 feet that will allow two emergency vehicles to pass. Once a 3rd residence is served on the private way, it would become a subdivision road and would have to meet the wider road standards.

The building and land use

ordinance now also requires that road entrance permits conform to state requirements on all public roads.

The Gravel Ordinance also changed after the town meeting vote. Specific mapping requirements have been added for new pits, and a variety of steps have been defined to deal with new permits, renewed permits of active pits, and renewed permits from expired pit licenses. The new processes give the Planning Board a clear direction on how to go about issuing permits.

The final ordinance approval comes in the Site Plan Review Ordinance and was the simplest of all. The change requires developers to submit 9 copies of site plans to the Planning Board for consideration. Previously only 7 copies had been required, leaving two members without individual copies.

## Progress Reported in Improper Cutting

(Lamoine) - The owner of a subdivision where a lot was clear cut in alleged violation of Lamoine's Shoreland Zoning Ordinance is replanting trees. Ronald Simons was issued a notice of violation last October for cutting all the trees on one lot which fell into the Resource Protection Area. Mr. Simons has been very cooperative with the town, hiring a forester as directed to oversee the purchase

and proper planting of the replacement trees. Some aspects of the lot, which may have been sold to another owner, are apparently tied up in litigation.

If the lot is replanted to the satisfaction of the town and the Department of Environmental Protection, a consent agreement is the next likely step. The town will be contacting its attorney to draw up the agreement.

## Gravel Pit Permits Renewed

(Lamoine) - The town's Planning Board has renewed the gravel extraction permits with three local contractors. The permits for Perry Fowler, Jay Fowler and Richard J. King, Inc. will all expire now in May 2012. The board granted the 3-year renewals at its June meeting.

Deputy Code Enforcement Officer Michael Jordan has completed his annual inspection of the permitted pits. One pit was found to have not extracted the required 200-yards of material annually to remain an active pit. The owner of that pit has been notified that because the pit is inactive, restoration efforts in accordance with the plan filed at the last re-permitting must be completed within a year. All other pits were found to be in compliance with local ordinances.

## Home Occupation Approved, Proposed

(Lamoine) - A Birchlawn Drive resident has won approval from the Planning Board to operate a child care business from her home. Christine Callahan plans to open the facility, pending final approval from the Department of Human Services.

The Planning Board will deal with a home occupation permit in July for a home based Yoga instruction business. Barbara Anton offers classes during those months she and her husband are living at their Seal Point Road home. By ordinance home occupations require a Planning Board permit. A home occupation is defined as incidental to residential use and employing no more than two non-related employees.

## Building Activity Down

(Lamoine) - The number of building permits issued through June in Lamoine was down 5 from last year. Code Enforcement Officer Dennis Ford issued the following permits since the last *Lamoine Quarterly*:

#	Name	Project
6	P. Frederick	Greenhouse
7	R&P Ehlers	Sun Room
8	P. Leonard Johnson	Addition
9	K. Johnson	Move house
10	R. Becker	Screen House
11	D. Jewell	Addition
12	B. Klyver	Addition, Porch
13	N. McIntyre	Mobile Home
14	H. Getchell	Deck
15	L. Sargent	Garden Shed
16	L. Sargent	Garage
17	B. Johnson	Deck
18	M&S Fuller	Residence

Last year at this time the town had issued 23 building permits.



## June Flooding Ravages Town Roads

(Lamoine) - Record rainfall for the month of June, 2009 hit Lamoine, much of it falling the morning of Saturday, June 20th. That caused major problems on both the state highways and local roads in town. Firefighters were called out in the early morning hours when motorists called 9-1-1 to report the road damage. Virtually every barricade and traffic cone the town had available was used to warn motorists of flooded areas. More than 5-inches fell in approximately 4 hours, overwhelming many culverts. Flood areas included Jordan River Road (State Route 204), Pinkhams Flats (also State Route 204), Mud Creek Road, Needles Eye Road and Mill Road. Significant damage was done on Buttermilk Road and Asa's Lane, with significant washing of culvert inlets and outlets on Shore Road and Needles



**Jordan River Road Floods**  
*Selectman Richard Fennelly, Jr. and Lester Sitton remove a tree brought down by the June 20th rain. Behind, water runs over Jordan River Road.*

downstream. The word is that the culvert that was overwhelmed (for at least the 3rd time since the road was rebuilt) will be enlarged. The water also washed out the driveway of Selectman Richard Fennelly, Jr. which served as a dam for a pond in front of his home.

Buttermilk Road was patched up temporarily that same day by contractor Jay Fowler. The heaved culvert to the right will have to be reset and the shoulders shaped and ditched. The damage occurred just before paving was scheduled to take place on that section of Buttermilk Road - approved to start before the new fiscal year at a sparsely attended special town meeting. The paving will now take place after July 1st—prices on asphalt are still low enough to stay within budget.

Mr. Fowler was working at the end of June to repair Asa's Lane. The town has submitted a disaster declaration report to Hancock County Emergency Management. The county had enough damage to qualify for federal disaster aid which should help with road repairs.



**Buttermilk Road**  
*Heavy rains caused the inlet of a cross culvert to heave and wash away the road shoulder. Damage to the road caused a week's delay in repaving plans.*

Eye Road.

The Maine Department of Transportation was able to temporarily fix up the section of Jordan River Road that flooded and washed out a driveway

## Grant Receives Initial Approval

(Lamoine) - The town has made the first cut in what is called a hazard mitigation grant to add a 2nd culvert to Needles Eye Road in a spot that floods whenever there is a significant amount of rain. The latest flooding event took place on June 20th, just days after the town got notification that its application scored high enough to move on for federal review.

The Maine Emergency Management Agency provided excellent guidance in filling out the extremely complex federal grant application. It's estimated the project would cost about \$7,200. If approved, the federal government would pick up about 75% of that cost, with the town picking up the rest. Voters approved funding to add a 2nd culvert at that section of Needles Eye Road as part of the 2009/10 budget.

## Blunt's Pond Trimmed Back

(Lamoine) - If you haven't visited Bloomfield Park in recent months, be prepared for a more pleasant scene. Volunteers led by Lamoine's Parks Commissioners have been trimming out the small undergrowth around the park area during several weekends this spring. After making several large piles of brush, a chipper was hired to transform the material into mulch. The cleared off woods add a nice complement to the new road leading into the park. The new road was built last fall, and the pot-holes in the road filled in, making for a smoother ride.



*Young Nick Harding casts a line in search of yellow perch at Blunt's Pond*

## Lamoine Roads Much Cleaner

By Georgia Munsell

(Lamoine) - Over 60 volunteers help pick up roadside trash on 31 adopted sections of Lamoine roads as part of the town's Adopt-A-Highway program. This year 4 cub scouts and their leaders from Pack 88 have joined as adopters for the Marlboro Beach and Raccoon Cove Roads.

Even though volunteers fill many bags with trash, every section has had less litter this year than last.

A big thank you to all our adopters some of whom pick up litter on their section every day or every week. You all really do make a difference. Making the town more beautiful are:

Darlene, Elizabeth & Bo b Alvarez, Arlyss & Ray Becker, Barbara Bland & Don Bamman, Nancy & Harold Boynton, Joan & Merle Bragdon, Angie & Karla Butler with Madison Brown, Kristy Eaton, Emily Rose, Cynthia & Gordon Donaldson,

Raymonde Dumont, Kathleen Rybarz, Amelia & Bruce Gillett, Mike & Michelle Hamby with cub scouts Garrett Smith, Conner McDevitt, Nick Harding, and Jacob Fallica and leaders Tim Harding and Peter McDevitt, Margaret & Gerald Hill, Carol Korty, Jude Lamb, Stu Marckoon

Lucia Michielli, Georgia & Mark Munsell, Kim & Dean Murphy, Faith Perkins & Emily & James Crotteau, Jodi, Steve, Kayla & Luke Perry, Georgiana & Bob Pulver, Diane & David Sanderson, Sally & Ken Smith, Doug Stewart, Lynda & Chris Tadema-Wielandt, Donna Thorburn, Terry Towne, Penny & John Walls, Connie, Isaac, Ivy & Ella Wallace, Wendy Preston-Ward & Ken Ward, Herb Watson & Alice French.



**Cleaning Up with Good Cheer**  
*Among the roadside litter volunteers this spring were (left to right) Kristy Eaton, Madison Brown, Karla Butler and Emily Rose standing with the haul by the Lamoine Transfer Station. To adopt a section of road, contact Georgia Munsell by e-mail: [munsells@gmail.com](mailto:munsells@gmail.com)*



# Town Office Staff Reappointed

## Opening for Road Commissioner's Job

(Lamoine) - The regular, paid staff at the Lamoine Town Office has been reappointed to the jobs they've held in previous years. Selectmen agreed to contracts with Town Clerk and Tax Collector Jennifer Kovacs, Assistant Clerk and Assistant Tax Collector Diane Carter, Code Enforcement Officer Dennis Ford, and Administrative Assistant/Treasurer (and *Lamoine Quarterly* writer) Stu Marckoon, who signed a 3-year contract. It's expected that part time staff, Deputy Code Enforcement Officer Michael Jordan and Animal Control Officer Michael Arsenault will sign new contracts with the town in early July.

Mr. Ford, who also held the title of Road Commissioner, has opted to relinquish that title. The town seeks a replacement for the job which entails preparing a budget for road work, assuring the work is performed by private contracts, erecting road signs, and assuring the

emergency road repairs are made expeditiously. It's not known who might be appointed to the post, and until such time as there is an appointment, the Selectmen will have to shoulder the responsibility that the job is performed.

The town has also rehired William Fennelly as the Transfer Station operator. Mr. Fennelly was hired in the summer of 2008 following the retirement of Allen Sternfield. He successfully completed a probationary period and agreed to a contract that runs through June 30, 2010.

Town staff received raises, mostly commensurate with the cost of living, though some hourly rates were higher depending on competing wages and staff experience. All raises were included in the 2009/10 budget approved at town meeting.

# Beach Restroom Maintained In House

(Lamoine) - Transfer Station attendant Bill Fennelly has agreed to add maintenance of the outhouse at Lamoine Beach to his duties. Fennelly will assure that the privy is cleaned out weekly in the months leading up to July, after which a twice a week cleaning will take place until September. The town had placed the maintenance job out to bid from private

contractors, but the Parks Commission suggested Mr. Fennelly be hired at his hourly rate if he was agreeable, which he was. The Parks Commission opted not to renew an agreement with a private contractor for the service.

# Fiscal Year End Shows Revenues Lagging

(Lamoine) - The town did not escape the national economic downturn during the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2009. Lagging automobile sales and very low interest rates combined to bring the general fund revenue up very short, causing a hit to the town's surplus funds. Combined with a significant change in cash flow for education, it's possible that the town might need a tax anticipation note to get through the summer months before property taxes start to be collected in October.

Excise taxes, the 2nd largest revenue sources for the town, came in \$22,011 under the projected annual revenue of \$305,000. That represents a 7% shortfall. During February and March, the account was trending downward by \$35,000, so there was a bit of a sign of recovery toward the end of the fiscal year. The projected income was set during the budgeting process of 2007, well before there was any hint of the economic bust.

The other revenue source that was significantly lower than budgeted was interest income. The projection was for \$46,000 in interest to be received by the end of the fiscal year. Again, this was set in 2007 when interest rates were very high and income had been coming in for several years at a good clip. The end of the year saw about \$15,000 in income, with one month left of earnings on the investment account coming in. Two factors were at

play-lower rates, and a lower investment account level thanks to the twice a year tax collection, meaning fewer funds were held over a long period of time.

Expenses in the general fund did not exceed their budget (the road fund may be another story after the June flooding, though). The bills are still straggling in from the last month of the fiscal year, but it looks like about \$15,000 that was budget will not be expended from the general fund. Savings were seen in Solid Waste and administration. And while road maintenance funds were still available at the end of the years, the damage to the roads is expected to exceed that which was left over in the regular road maintenance account.

The town is still working with the school department in tallying the education fund balances with one bill left to pay in the fiscal year.

# Credit/Debit Card Acceptance Explored

(Lamoine) - The town office has yet to find acceptable circumstances to receive payment via debit and credit cards. The Legislature approved a law change that allows fees for card acceptance to be passed along to the consumer. Generally businesses are charged a merchant fee, which is a percentage of the transaction. On tax bills of a few thousand dollars, that

# Roads Swept, Paving Planned

(Lamoine) - The winter sand was swept away from the town roads this past spring by George Crawford. The Lamoine resident has won the bid for the past several years.

The lower end of Buttermilk Road will be paved in early July after approval for funding at town meeting. As noted in the flooding article on Page 3, the road has to be repaired from water damage prior to the start of paving. Lane Construction won the paving bid.



**Hiding in the Hostas**  
*A wild snowshoe hare has been keeping the town office staff entertained, munching on the vegetation, especially around the Veterans' Memorial*

# Returnable Bottle Program Approved

(Lamoine) - Selectmen approved an agreement with Lamoine Redemption as part of a returnable containers program that will benefit local non-profit agencies. The business operated by Stacey Curtis and Deborah Pickard of Asa's Lane periodically cleans out the returnable area at the Lamoine Transfer Station. A check is forwarded to the town, and the town in turn pays that amount to a different beneficiary each month. Several non-profit organizations have applied for the funds generated by the returnable containers, and Selectmen have assigned the proceeds received each month on a first-come/first-served basis. So far the town has paid out \$251.15 to the THAW Fund (providing home heating assistance), \$188.60 to Lamoine's 8th grade class of 2009, and \$93.90 to Special Childrens' Friends. The Frenchman Bay Riders Snowmobile Club will get June's proceeds of \$129.35.

could prove quite costly to the town.

An inquiry with the town's bank found that the merchant fee was not able to be added to the transaction, but a "convenience" fee could. Another municipality is trying something similar, but the convenience fee being charged is \$8.50/transaction. The town will keep exploring its options.



## Fire Department Battles Two Major Fires on Same Night

(Lamoine) - The night of May 14, 2009 will be one that many Lamoine firefighters will remember for a long time. The department was called for mutual aid to two commercial building fires within an hour of each other in Ellsworth and Trenton.

The first call came to the C&C Machine Shop on the Bucksport Road in Ellsworth. The business is owned by former Lamoine Selectman Glenn Crawford and was spotted ablaze by a person in another building at the complex. Lamoine sent a pumper truck and crew to the scene to assist the Ellsworth department, which left the building standing, but with damage that could be in excess of a million dollars.

While that crew was on scene, a second call came in that Nautilus Marine

at the Industrial Park in Trenton was on fire. Lamoine's tanker truck, which had been providing station coverage in Ellsworth, rushed to the scene, as did Lamoine's other pumper truck which was still in the Lamoine Station. The pumper truck ended up filling tankers from numerous other communities at a dry hydrant next to Trenton's fire station. It was estimated that more than 200,000 gallons of water was pumped onto the Trenton fire. The building was a total loss, and the fire had progressed so quickly that the roof was on the verge of collapse minutes after firefighters arrived on scene. Many of the same interior firefighters that were on scene in Ellsworth also performed fire attack activities at the Trenton fire, making for an

exhausting night.

The state fire marshal's office was called to look for the cause of both blazes. It's believed the C&C fire was electrical in nature. It's not yet clear what caused the Nautilus Marine fire.

Both businesses are back in operation at alternate facilities, and plans are in the works to rebuild at some point. C&C owner Glenn Crawford said he was able to salvage a fair amount of the machinery that was damaged in the fire. Nautilus owner Steve Brenton is operating in a nearby vacant building.



*Crews from Asplundh trim the branches around the utility lines across the street from the Town Hall on Douglas Highway*

## Service Entrance Blamed For Fire

(Lamoine) - A Buttermilk Road resident escaped from her smoke filled mobile home in June after the outlet behind her TV set caught fire. Quick response from her grandson put out the flames and firefighters removed part of the paneling on the wall to make sure the flames had not extended further. The home suffered from smoke and burn damage.

The cause was traced to the electrical service coming into the trailer. Insulation had chafed from one wire and

rubbed against the neutral wire, causing a short circuit. A similar incident caused a small electrical fire last winter at a home on Lorimer Road.

Residents are urged to look over the wires coming into their homes from utility poles to make sure trees are clear. If there is branch interference, Bangor Hydro Electric should be notified to clear the lines.

Most of the other calls in the spring involved station coverage for mutual aid fire calls, flooded roads, and one out of control brush fire on Shore Road. That blaze occurred while a homeowner was burning debris from an old shed and the wind picked up and it got into the trees. The fire department was on the scene and pumping water in less than 5-minutes and the fire did not spread to any neighboring structures or beyond the property boundaries.



*The area around an outlet burned at a mobile home on Buttermilk Road when a power line broke or shorted out.*

## Jordan Graduations from FF School

(Lamoine) - Matthew Jordan is now among the best trained firefighters in Hancock County. He completed the county's Firefighter II training program and graduated in ceremonies held in May here in town, along with nearly two dozen other firefighters from around the county. The Shore Road resident joins his father Mike, and several other Lamoine firefighters who've gone through the intense training at the academy in the past three years. Students spend their weekends for nearly 6-months training to safely attack fires of all types and to properly use firefighting equipment and safety gear. Matt's grandfather, Jerry, is also a long time member of the Lamoine Volunteer Fire Department.

## FD Auction is August 21, 2009

(Lamoine) - The annual fire department auction will be held on Friday, August 21, 2009 at 6PM at the Lamoine School gym. Auctioneer Chas Hare of Stockton Springs (a firefighter there), has graciously agreed to lead the bidding once again.

Volunteers with the fire department are in the process of gathering goods and services to auction off. The event has become the single largest fund raiser for the department over the years. Funds raised by the department are being used to help purchase the new truck (see related article) and have been used to enhance the emergency extrication equipment in the recent past. The Lamoine Grange generally sells food at the event, which has also become a major social affair.

## New Chassis Arrives. Body and Loan Pending

(Lamoine) - A 2009 Ford F550 chassis has arrived in Lamoine, waiting for the fire truck body to be constructed. Darlings Ford in Bangor was the lower of the two bids received at just over \$34,000, roughly \$3,000 less than a competitor. The chassis will be paid for in July on the same day that the Fire Department and Board of Selectmen open bids for construction of the body of the new brush truck.

Town meeting approved funding for the new truck that will replace a 1976 Ford pumper truck and a 1986 GMC pickup truck. The entire project is expected to cost about \$90,000. The town will borrow \$35,000 to be paid back over 5-years for the project. The new truck should be complete in early Autumn.

## Grant Approved

(Augusta) - The town's insurer has approved of a grant for up to \$838 to help the fire department purchase safety gear for use at scenes on public highways. The equipment will include signs to warn motorists there is an accident ahead, vests, emergency lighting, traffic cones and the like. Federal safety guidelines require such equipment for emergency scenes to keep personnel safe, especially at night when visibility is limited.



## New Town Officials Elected in April

(Lamoine) - There are a couple of new faces holding elected office in Lamoine after town meeting balloting in early April. Winning election to the Board of Selectmen were incumbent S. Josephine Cooper (203 votes) and newcomer Gary McFarland (181 votes). McFarland replaces incumbent Brett Jones on the Board who came up short in the balloting, as did challenger Peter McDevitt.

The Board of Assessors race saw a recount held after incumbent Colene Sharkey came up 40-votes behind Michael Jordan. Mrs. Sharkey did not attend the recount hearing conducted by Town Clerk Jennifer Kovacs and Assistant Clerk Diane Carter. The vote tally saw Mr. Jordan gain

one more vote in the margin of victory when one of the votes originally counted for Mrs. Sharkey was declared unable to determine because the checkmark was not in either box.

The recount was the first in recent memory in a municipal election in Lamoine. Mrs. Sharkey was required to pay about \$125 to cover the costs for the recount. Half the money was received prior to the recount as required by law. Since the result did not change, she is obligated by law to pay the remainder.

Mr. McFarland took office at the next regular meeting of the Selectmen. Mr. Jordan takes office July 1st on the Board of Assessors.



**The 2009/10 Board of Selectmen**  
From left: Kermit Theall, Gary McFarland, Richard Fennelly Jr., Jo Cooper (chair), and Cynthia Donaldson

## Conservation Awards Given to Road Cleaners

(Lamoine) - The Lamoine Conservation Commission awarded the 2008-2009 Conservation Award to three individuals dedicated to the beautification of Lamoine. In ceremonies at the Town Meeting and at the May meeting of the Commission, Harold and Nancy Boynton and Georgia Munsell were honored for their work.

Harold and Nancy Boynton are seen daily on the roads of Lamoine, cleaning up four separate routes of a mile each. Georgia Munsell initiated and led the first Town-wide Roadside Clean-Up and worked successfully to establish Lamoine as an Adopt-A-Highway Town. The Lamoine Conservation Commission thanks them for their untiring volunteer efforts to keep Lamoine beautiful.



Conservation Award winners for 2008—(left) Georgia Munsell, (right) Harold “Bubby” & Nancy Boynton

## Display Policy Revised

(Lamoine) - Selectmen crafted a policy on just what could be displayed on bulletin boards on town property in 2008 to give priority to official events and notices and bar political advertising. The trouble was, no one was assigned to enforce the policy. An episode at the Transfer Station brought that to light when an offending political statement showed up on one of the bulletin boards and a candidate for office took offense.

The policy has been revised. Those in charge of their respective facilities will be charged with removing postings that do not meet the display criteria in the policy. Commercial advertising is not allowed at facilities. The policy is posted on the town website.

## Vacancies Exist for Appointed Officials

(Lamoine) - The Board of Selectmen is looking for volunteers to serve in appointed positions following expiration of terms. Positions are open on the Planning Board for an alternate member after Melody Havey indicated she did not wish to be reappointed due to time constraints. The Conservation Commission also has an opening after Lynda Tadema-Wielandt decided she would not be able to serve another term. The Parks Commission has two vacancies. Sara O’Connell has decided not to seek reappointment, and an alternate member position has been open for several months.

Veterans Memorial Committee secretary Kathleen DeFusco has resigned. The committee itself is nearly finished service as construction of the memorial is complete.

The town has a new appointed board—the Local School Advisory Committee needs 4 members to advise RSU #24 representative Jon Morren about things concerning the Lamoine School and the town’s students. Interested individuals should contact the town office.

## Conflicting Info

(Lamoine) - Mistakes happen, mostly by mistake. Take this year’s town meeting. It was scheduled in late summer 2008 for the first Tuesday and Wednesday in April 2009. There was no detailed 2009 calendar available—turns out April 8th was the first day of Passover, a Jewish holiday. That drew an e-mail requesting more sensitivity to such holidays in the future.

Another conflict arose in the selection of ballot clerks for the April town officials election. Listed on the Democrat roster for ballot clerks is Selectman Cynthia Donaldson, who was next in line of those available to count the ballots. An inquiry as to whether that was proper was forwarded to the legal services department at Maine Municipal Association. The lawyers there say it’s not illegal to have a Selectman serve as a ballot clerk, but advise against it, as Selectmen also serve to oversee recounts. No replacement could be found for Donaldson who did not serve on the recount board.

## Selectmen Set Goals for 2009/2010

(Lamoine) - The Board of Selectmen has set several goals to at least get a discussion going on some important matters in town. Among the ideas to be explored further in the next 9-months are:

- Looking for alternative revenues to property taxes
- Encouraging community development to enhance the tax base
- Celebrating the identity of the town, bringing the community

- together
- Making the town more attractive for business
- Looking at the town’s “Big Picture”
- Having someone from the school community periodically address the Selectmen
- Addressing waterfront and access issues

The board has begun discussing one goal at each of its meetings with progress made on some already.



## Lamoine Student Represents Maine in Speech Contest

By Carol Duffy

(Lamoine) - Kelly Henry, a seventh grade student from the Lamoine Consolidated School was recently named a finalist in Modern Woodmen of America's National School Speech Contest. Kelly placed first in the regional competition held in Bangor on May 21.

Contestants across the country have prepared speeches on this year's topic: A Person Who Has Touched Many Lives. Kelly spoke about her mother, Mary Henry of Lamoine, who has touched the lives of many people through volunteer work and her plans to establish a women's home.



*Kelly Henry holds her regional trophy with Dale Tudor of Modern Woodmen of America after taping her national competition speech at the town hall.*

After placing first at the school, union, and regional competitions based on her live presentation, a taped presentation will be judged at the national level. The national winner will be chosen in mid-July from the DVDs submitted to Modern Woodmen of America's home office in Rock Island, Illinois.

## Vital Statistics Busy for Second Quarter

(Lamoine) - The stork was busy this past quarter with a half dozen new arrivals. On April 1 **Sophia Marie Rosales** was born at MDI Hospital. April 21 saw **Penelope Eve Jones** born at Eastern Maine Medical Center and a few hours later **Dylan James Stoll** was born at Maine Coast Memorial Hospital. A small, homemade rocking chair donated for raffle to the Lamoine Veterans' Memorial Committee and given back by the raffle winner was given to Penelope's family as the next baby born following the committee's meeting that decided on the donation. **Riley Andrew Smith** was born May 23rd at EMMC. **Calleigh Grace Trenholm** arrived May 29th at EMMC, and **Eva Lorraine Schaab** was born June 1st at MCMH.

Lamoine lost four long time residents during the quarter. **Hildred Herrick** passed April 24th. She was 81 and the wife, mother, and grandmother of three Lamoine firefighters. **Marion**

## Lamoine to Receive Sculpture at State Park

By Monica Moeller

(Lamoine) - Lamoine has been chosen to receive a Roland Mayer sculpture that will be created this summer at the 2009 Schoodic International Sculpture Symposium (SISS) from Aug 1 through Sep 12 at the SERC Campus, the former Navy base in the Schoodic section of Acadia National Park.

Lamoine's participation in the symposium offers many opportunities to celebrate our stone heritage. The work site at SERC is open to the public throughout the symposium. School groups will be encouraged to visit so that students can meet the artists and learn about making sculptures, Maine's quarrying history, and the geology that created the local granite and basalt in the artist's hands.

The Maine Bureau of Parks and Lands is donating \$8,000 and Lamoine, as a participating town, is asked to raise an additional \$8,000 to help defray the roughly \$30,000 cost

## Honor Students Recognized

(Lamoine) - The Board of Selectmen signed certificates recognizing students who graduated from high school with honors this spring. At MDI High **Emily Crotteau** was the class valedictorian. She was joined on the honor roll by **Cara Weber, Tyler Crawford, Katie Bowman and Sam Spruce**. Ellsworth High School saw **Casey Wyman, Brooke Moulard, Lauren Kief and Justin Harding** graduate with honors.

According to the town report, there were 22 students in the class of 2009. The high school population of Lamoine students will fall by 13 in 2010 as only 9 8th graders graduated from the Lamoine Consolidated School in mid-June.



*Sculptor Ian Newberry of Sweden during 2007 symposium*

of our sculpture. No municipal money will be used. A group called "Lamoine Sculpture Committee" has been formed for fundraising and activities designed to both introduce Roland Mayer to the community and to introduce our community to the sculpture symposium. The committee needs your help to make this a reality. Tax-deductible check donations should be made to SISS and mailed to Lamoine Sculpture Fund, 34 Maxwell Ave, Lamoine, ME 04605.

## Eel Grass Session Planned

By Carol Korty

(Lamoine) - Interested in knowing why eel grass is an important resource for many marine species? Up for a kayak trip from Lamoine Beach into the mouth of the Jordan River this summer?

Join us on Monday, July 27th, from 8:30 am to noon, on an expedition lead by Doctors Jane Disney and George Kidder of MDI Biological Laboratory. This team has been conducting an on-going project in eel grass restoration along the shores of MDI across from Lamoine. This year they are extending the project to our shores.

## Community Arts News

By Diane Sanderson

(Lamoine) - Everywhere you looked in the Lamoine School during April and May you found evidence of immersion in Chinese history and culture as the students and staff prepared for performances of "Riding the Wind: Story Plays from Old China," a play written, directed and produced by Lamoine's own playwright, Carol Korty.

Lamoine Community Arts (LCA) held a Reader's Theater in early May again this year at the Grange. Approximately 80 people viewed the presentation of four plays read by members of the community arts group and enjoyed light refreshments.

In upcoming months, LCA will be having a Progressive Dinner on August 1<sup>st</sup> to include visits to 4 local homes, each offering part of the dinner: appetizers, soup and salad, main course, and dessert. Also in August, all are welcome to come to the annual LCA meeting on August 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. at a place to be announced. Our fall performances this year will be held on November 6, 7, and 8 at the Grange. Auditions will be held in early September.

July 2009-Lamoine Schedule

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Consult the Town Website (www.lamoine-me.gov) for the latest calendars			1-7PM Assessors	2-7PM Selectmen	3-Office closes @ 1PM (Holiday)	4-Office Closed
5	6-State shutdown day (office open)	7-6:30 PM Planning Board, 7PM Fire Dept	8-7PM Conservation Commission	9	10	11
12	13	14-7PM Fire Dept	15	16	17	18
Administrative Assistant on Vacation for the Week.						
19	20	21-7PM Fire Dept	22-"Deer Isle Boys" presentation- Historical Society	23-6:30 Special Town Meeting 7PM Selectmen	24	25-Town Office open 8am to noon
26	27	28-7PM Fire Dept	29	30-7PM Friends of Lamoine St. Park.	31	

August 2009-Lamoine Schedule

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
During vacation week, the town office will be closed for lunch. Please call 667-2242 for schedule.						1-Town Office Open 8-Noon—CmtY Arts Prog. Dinner 4PM
2	3	4-7PM Planning Board 7PM Fire Dept	5-7PM Board of Assessors	6-Selectmen 7PM Not So Tall Tales by Historical Society	7	8
9	10	11-7PM Fire Dept.	12-7PM Conservation Commission	13	14	15-Pot Luck Concert, E. Lamoine Meeting House
16-Services @ East Lamoine Mtg. House	17	18-7PM Fire Dept	19	20	21-Fire Dept. Auction	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29-Town Office open 8-noon
Administrative Assistant on Vacation for the week.						
30	31	Take a chance on this beautiful handmade quilt to benefit the Restoration of the East Lamoine Meeting House. Only \$1 each or 6 for \$5! Call any board member to get your tickets – drawing will be at the Annual Meeting on September 23 <sup>rd</sup> .				

September 2009-Lamoine Schedule

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1-7PM Planning Board 7PM Fire Dept.	2-7PM Tax Assessors	3-7PM Selectmen	4	5
6	7-Closed, Labor Day	8-7PM Fire Dept.	9-7PM Conservation Commission	10	11	12
13	14	15-7PM Fire Dept.	16	17-7PM Selectmen	18	19
20	21	22-7PM Fire Dept.	23-Hist. Society Annual Meeting	24	25	26
27	28	29-7PM Fire Dept.	30			

The Lamoine Quarterly  
July 2009

- Inside this issue:
- 1

An RSU is Born
- 2

Cell Tower Hearing
- 3

Flooding Hits Hard
- 4

Revenues Lag
- 5

FD Battles Big Ones
- 5

Check Your Wires
- 6

New Officials Elected
- 7

Speech Contest Winner
- 7

Vital Statistics

And Much, Much More!



Town of Lamoine  
606 Douglas Highway  
Lamoine, ME 04605